Annual Review
2021/2022

ROYAL
COLLEGE
OF MUSIC
London

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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Royal College of Music is the world-leading conservatoire where innovation and 140 years of tradition combine to create an inspirational environment for our diverse body of students, staff and visitors.

It was a proud moment in December 2021 when our President, The former Prince of Wales, officially opened the More Music: Reimagining the Royal College of Music development that has transformed our historic campus. Over the past ten years, with the unrelenting help of our extremely generous supporters, we have raised an astonishing £42.5 million to deliver outstanding new facilities. These include two performance halls with state-of-the art digital technology, a number of rehearsal and practice spaces, an interactive Museum, and the Courtyard and social space at the heart of the College.

We continue to support the very best students, whatever their financial means, from the UK, EU and beyond. The More Music Campaign made it possible for us to award over £4 million in scholarships and other forms of financial assistance this year to more than half of our students. It also increased funds for widening access through activities such as RCM Sparks, our pioneering educational outreach programme, and helped promote innovation with new academic appointments, as well as improved research and digital resources.

I thank all our supporters, and especially Geoffrey Richards for leading the More Music Campaign Committee. On Council, our Deputy Chairman Jane Barker retired after 15 years of exemplary service, but I am delighted that she continues in the honorary role of Vice President. We were also sorry to say goodbye to John Nickson, Vanessa Latarche, Natasha Loges and Laura Williamson, but welcome Catherine Clarke as new Deputy Chairman, Richard Goulding, Ingrid Pearson and new Students' Union President Tymon Zgorzelski.

As ever, we must continue to advocate for access, particularly in the UK where the crisis in music education in our schools causes grave concern, and where we need urgent and fundamental policy change.

Lord Black of Brentwood
Chairman

** The RCM is ranked the global top institution for performing arts in the 2022 QS World University Rankings by Subject*

Opposite
A member of staff signing the RCM's book of condolence following the passing of The late Queen, the RCM's Patron since 1952

As the new academic year started, we were deeply saddened by the death of our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She had for so many years taken a great interest in our work and our gifted students. Our thoughts were very much with all the members of her family – not least our President, The former Prince of Wales – as they, along with the nation, grieved for her. We remain grateful to our President for his enormous commitment to our College and to the future of music.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am delighted and very proud that the RCM has been ranked number one in the world for performing arts in the 2022 QS World University Rankings.

We encourage creativity and entrepreneurship in our students by investing in facilities, including our cutting-edge Digital Innovation Lab where students can work with the latest future-forward Dolby Atmos sound technology. Many initiatives allow the community to develop artistry beyond the traditional confines of classical music, such as our unique Composition for Screen course, and the RCM Accelerate scheme, which supports students launching business ideas.

The quality and range of the RCM's research was also recognised with the highest score amongst institutions specialising only in music in the latest Research Excellence Framework results. Our new Wolfson Centre in Music & Material Culture, international collaborations and investment in high-quality research-led teaching will bolster this.

We also achieved an outstanding score in the National Student Survey, with teaching and learning resources, and the RCM Library rated particularly highly.

This year, we delivered full opera and chamber programmes, masterclasses, and concerts featuring under-represented composers and celebrating the 150th anniversary of Ralph Vaughan Williams. As part of our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion plan, we continued to expand the range of topics, musicians and repertoire studied by students across all programmes.

In May, The former Prince of Wales made his annual visit to confer honours and to meet some of our young musicians. The President's Visit is always a significant moment in the Royal College of Music's calendar, and this year we honoured the contributions made by exceptional musicians from across the world, many of whom are alumni.

In a number of new appointments, Professor Robert Adlington joins us as Head of Research and Professor Mark Bowden as Head of Postgraduate Taught Programmes. Marie Lloyd also becomes Head of Woodwind and Jason Evans Head of Brass, in succession to Simon Channing and Nigel Black.

I thank all our supporters for the success of the More Music Campaign that will benefit students for generations, and our staff for helping us achieve the accolade of being ranked number one in the world.

Professor Colin Lawson CBE FRCM
Director

Opposite
The RCM Philharmonic performs the score to a short film live-to-picture, in a showcase for our Composition for Screen course

It was with profound sadness that we learned of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. As Princess Elizabeth in 1947 she attended a concert and distributed prizes at the College. As Patron, she later presented The Queen Mother with an honorary degree and opened the Britten Theatre. She was a proud champion of classical music and showed unwavering dedication to the RCM.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

At the Royal College of Music, we nurture our exceptionally talented students, giving them the opportunity to develop as artists and fulfil their ambitions.

Our students, many of whom have scholarships at the College, continue to win prestigious international competitions, reach new audiences through digital concerts, forge innovative creative partnerships and contribute to pioneering research. This is a snapshot of just some of their achievements.

Alim Beisembayev won First Prize at the 2021 Leeds International Piano Competition, as well as the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Society Award for the best performance of contemporary music and the medici.tv Audience Prize. He also made his BBC Proms debut in July 2022.

Fellow pianist Jeneba Kanneh-Mason was named in Classic FM's 30 Rising Stars list, while Thomas Kelly won both the First and the Audience Prize at the 2022 Sheepdrove Piano Competition, as well as Second Prize at the Hastings International Piano Competition.

Hugh Cutting won the 2021 Kathleen Ferrier Awards, becoming the first countertenor to ever win the competition, and was named as a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist for 2022–24.

The work of the RCM's Centre for Performance Science was recognised when doctoral student Debi Graham was made a fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health.

Composition for Screen student Levent Altuntas was a finalist in both the 2021 Oticons Faculty International Film Music Competition and the Indie Film Music Contest 2022, and Billy Palmer is now a composer and orchestrator for video games and an arranger for the London Video Game Orchestra.

Further success for the Composition Faculty came as Chelsea Becker won the Seniors category in the 2021 BBC Young Composer Competition; Alex Ho was accepted onto both the LPO Young Composers and RPS Composer programmes and was chosen as a *BBC Music Magazine* Rising Star 2022; and Mina Salib scored a Nike commercial to be shown in US stores.

Flautist Hannah Gillingham was announced as a Britten Pears Young Artist 2022–23, as were the Salomé Quartet and mezzo-sopranos Annabel Kennedy and Emma Roberts. Emma was also awarded Second Prize and the Loveday Song Prize at the 2022 Kathleen Ferrier Awards.

Also at the 2022 Kathleen Ferrier Awards, Avishka Edirisinghe, who is studying Collaborative Piano and Conducting, won the Help Musicians Accompanist Prize.

Opposite
Alim Beisembayev performs at the 2021 Leeds International Piano Competition

The cast of young singers are uniformly terrific... Accompanying them the RCM Opera Orchestra produced one of the best performances I can recall hearing from them in the Britten Theatre.

Claire Seymour in *Opera Today* on the RCM Opera Studio's production of *Hansel and Gretel*

PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Royal College of Music is renowned for the range, quality and depth of its artistic programme, supported by internationally acclaimed musicians.

Orchestral concerts conducted by Sir Antonio Pappano, Martyn Brabbins, Rafael Payare, Jac van Steen, Chloé van Soeterstède and Thomas Zehetmair gave students the chance to work with some of the world's leading musicians.

Visiting Professor of Violin Maxim Vengerov led both chamber and orchestral masterclasses with works including Mozart's violin concertos; Bernard d'Ascoli, Alina Ibragimova, Francesca Dego and the Pavel Haas Quartet offered further masterclasses.

Our Vocal Faculty students spent an inspirational day with soprano Angela Gheorghiu, working individually and as a class. The RCM Opera Studio also staged highly praised productions of *Hansel and Gretel* directed by Stephen Barlow, of Jonathan Dove's *Flight* directed by Jeremy Sams, and of *The Magic Flute* which was streamed on operavision.eu. *Odysseys* was an impressive series of six mini-operas written and performed by RCM students working with opera company Tête à Tête.

We celebrated the 150th anniversary of the birth of RCM alumnus and professor Ralph Vaughan Williams and performed works by composers whom he taught. We also continued to promote music by under-represented composers, in the full-day FestivALL, and in a programme conducted by Kevin John Edusei including works by Samy Moussa and Anna Clyne.

New music featured in our annual RCM Composition for Screen Showcase and in a concert of cutting-edge electronic music curated by Claudia Molitor, while the Keyboard Festival, the Festival of Percussion and Super String Sunday attracted new audiences and were broadcast around the world on the RCM's YouTube channel. Our annual collaboration for RCM composers with the Head On Festival in Sydney saw their innovative work shared internationally.

The RCM continues its collaboration with the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. It also began partnerships with the Stauffer Center for Strings in Cremona, with students and professors from the Strings Faculty taking part in two intensive residencies, and with the Saline Royale Academy in France.

Talented organists from the Keyboard Faculty visited Paris for masterclasses, and Historical Performance students embarked on a concert tour to the International Baroque Music Festival in Bolivia. We thank our kind donors Philip Carne MBE HonRCM, the Heythorp Trust, the LIBER Foundation, Richard and Sue Price, Catherine Quinn, and Peter and Dimity Spiller who made this inspirational opportunity possible.

Opposite main
Visiting Professor of Violin Maxim Vengerov instructs an RCM violinist in a masterclass

Opposite bottom left
The RCM Opera Studio's production of Jonathan Dove's *Flight*

Opposite bottom right
Conductor Chloé van Soeterstède works with the RCM Philharmonic in rehearsal

Monitoring Format: 7.1.4
Dolby Atmos
RCM 2024

PROMOTING DIGITAL INNOVATION

The Royal College of Music continues to upgrade its digital facilities as the curriculum evolves and student demand for options in music technology increases.

When the College resumed in-person teaching and learning, students made full use of new facilities on campus, including two new performance spaces and state-of-the-art, self-operated audio-visual recording equipment.

We received significant capital funding from the Wolfson Foundation and from the Garfield Weston Foundation towards installing digital technology in our new performance spaces. The Office for Students granted additional funding to upgrade our studio Control Room 3 (known as the Digital Innovation Lab) to include a Dolby Atmos 'spatial audio' system, so that students can record, mix, master and broadcast material in the most up-to-date and future-looking formats. These developments mark an important step in our continued commitment to improving our digital teaching facilities.

We also sought to learn from the rapid changes and innovations that were introduced during the pandemic. The research project 'Transforming performance pedagogies: interactions between new technology and traditional methods', led by Dr Christina Guillaumier and Dr Diana Salazar and funded by the Society for Research in Higher Education, explored how digital technologies contributed positively to teaching during Covid and how a blend of traditional and digital methods of teaching can enhance student learning.

The Global Conservatoire Consortium, launched with the Royal Danish Academy of Music, the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, and the Manhattan School of Music, is a major innovation. This Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project boosts our reputation worldwide and enabled our students to study online together and to connect in a new digital age of global learning. Teaching staff also participated in intensive training and development activities.

The College has again shared livestreamed and pre-recorded concerts, operas and masterclasses worldwide on the RCM YouTube channel. The channel received 960,000 views between August 2021 and July 2022, and Maxim Vengerov's Mozart violin concertos masterclass alone has been viewed more than 56,000 times.

The RCM Museum and Library continue to raise the profile of their collections around the world by opening them up to an ever-wider audience online. Thousands of items can be viewed on the Museum's website, the Library catalogue, and online via Google Arts and Culture, MIMO, MINIM-UK, Art UK, ArenaPAL, the Internet Archive and IMSLP.

A team of student Digital Learning Ambassadors helped to support and promote new digital learning initiatives across the College and the annual Programmes Staff Development Day brought together professors, teachers and graduate teaching assistants to explore new developments in technology-enhanced learning.

Opposite
Composition for Screen professor Mike Ladouceur in the newly upgraded Digital Innovation Lab

CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE

The extraordinary treasures in the Royal College of Music Museum and Library collections are accessible for in-depth study, with students able to research in person or explore online.

The new RCM Museum opened to the public in October 2021 and has already welcomed over 11,000 visitors from across the world, staged over 30 concerts featuring more than 100 RCM students, and hosted many workshops and tours. The Museum opening received very positive press and TV coverage, with advertisements on Classic FM as well as on London buses and digital street hubs.

The RCM's Weston Discovery Centre and Urs Reist Learning Space are also open, and the Wolfson Centre in Music & Material Culture – a space for study, conservation, digitisation and storage – has been available to students and staff since the summer and is now open to the public by appointment.

This year, the Museum acquired a portrait of 18th-century anti-slavery composer Samuel Arnold by Thomas Hardy, with support from the Art Fund, the V&A Purchase Fund and a personal contribution from RCM Director, Professor Colin Lawson. It also staged two temporary exhibitions – *Musical Portraits in Bohemian London*, and *Hidden Treasures of the Royal College of Music*, which included Edward Elgar's trombone. Meanwhile, conservation, cataloguing and digitisation of the collections continues.

The RCM Library received the top score for any Higher Education library in the country in the National Student Survey. It continues to look at ways to improve its service and has been actively building the lending collection with works by under-represented composers, focusing on composers from Africa, the African diaspora and from beyond Europe.

The Library continues to develop ways to integrate the special collections into students' courses, both in person and via digitised copies which are uploaded to the Internet Archive.

In Vaughan Williams' 150th anniversary year, Sir Antonio Pappano was shown the autograph manuscript of the composer's Fifth Symphony, one of the Library's great treasures, before he conducted the RCM Symphony Orchestra performing the work. The manuscript was on display for the audience and featured in the livestream of the concert.

Following Joseph Horovitz's death in February 2022, the Library has received the composer's manuscripts and personal archive. Joseph both studied and taught at the RCM, and as a great supporter of the Library had long wished his collection would come to College. This is the most significant composer archive the RCM has received in over 40 years.

The Library team has sorted and accessioned a number of other archives this year, including over 600 letters from the collection of violinist and impresario André Mangeot. A member of staff also discovered the autograph manuscript of a previously unknown dramatic scene by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, *Nourmahal's Song*. Further additions include the Paul Campion collection of letters, autographs and images of female singers (1750 to the present day).

Opposite
An RCM student is shown a historical instrument in the new Wolfson Centre in Music & Material Culture

MORE MUSIC FOUNDING PATRONS
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COLT C
MORE MUSIC
2012 – 2022

INVESTING IN OUR FACILITIES

Our impressive new performance spaces, professional-grade studios and interactive Museum ensure that RCM students have the very best opportunities.

The transformed RCM campus was officially opened by The former Prince of Wales in December 2021. The More Music development includes a new Performance Hall and Performance Studio which both incorporate digital technology; the new Museum, the Garfield Weston Centre and the Wolfson Centre in Music & Material Culture which which will widen access to the RCM's collections; digitally enabled teaching and practice rooms; and a new Café and the 1851 Courtyard for students, staff and visitors to enjoy.

Nearly 200 public performances were held in the new College spaces between August 2021 and July 2022, with over 5,500 tickets sold. In a Welcome Experience Survey in July 2022, 94% of respondents described the new spaces as 'very good' or 'good' at making them feel welcome.

In recognition of over 700 supporters who have donated £1,000 and above to the More Music Campaign over the last decade, their names are now displayed on a new donor projection in the Café. The gift of ten upright Blüthner pianos from the Alfred Reinhold Foundation has also been recognised by naming the practice rooms where they are housed 'The Blüthner Practice Suite', and we have named some new individual practice pods after generous supporters who have left gifts to the College in their Wills.

Action on energy efficiency and carbon reduction on campus continues with the aim of achieving net zero carbon by 2035. We have also engaged with students and staff on sustainability issues, with a number of events taking place to raise awareness during 'Green Week' in January 2022.

Opposite
RCM Chairman, Lord Black, Director of Development, Lily Harriss, RCM Director, Professor Colin Lawson, and members of the Development team unveil the new donor projection in the Café

Having beautiful locations to perform in is an important part of receiving inspiration to continue creating. It's exciting to have spaces that can hold a well-sized audience and that have such wonderful acoustics.

Beth Stone, Flute and Baroque Flute student who graduated in July 2021

WHAT IS A GOOD CITY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH? THE ROLE OF THE ARTS IN SOCIAL-CULTURAL URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

RCM Reader in Performance Science and Digital Learning Dr Tania Lisboa received a research grant of £199,000 from the British Academy's Knowledge Frontiers 2022 programme. Building on robust evidence that engagement with the arts promotes wellbeing and feelings of connectedness, her project combines music, social sciences, medicine and urban planning, and focuses on understanding and enhancing social-cultural urban infrastructure in two cities in South America: Salvador (Brazil) and Cochabamba (Bolivia).

It involves large-scale surveys in the cities and will use music to engage isolated citizens and integrate families of those with disabilities. Findings will inform policymaking, urban planning and social-cultural infrastructure for a 'good city'.

PERFORMING HERITAGE: BAROQUE MUSIC IN BOLIVIA

This project has helped to preserve a rich musical legacy discovered in Bolivia dating back to the 16th century. Some manuscripts arrived with European missionaries, but others feature text in the indigenous Guarani language. Head of Historical Performance Ashley Solomon's research, education and performance project, supported by the RCM's Global Challenges Research Fund and highlighted for its impact by the REF, has enabled careers for musicians and teachers in Bolivia, established two ensembles – the Arakeandar Bolivia Choir and Baroque Orchestra – and kickstarted a historical instrument building industry there. The music has been revived in performance and in widely praised recordings. As well as increasing the social, educational and cultural inclusion of marginalised and diverse audiences, the project has enhanced cultural tourism.

PIONEERING RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

The Royal College of Music has been ranked the top UK conservatoire offering music as a single subject by the panel of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021, which assesses the quality of research in UK Higher Education institutions.

The overall research environment at the RCM performed particularly well, with 70% of its research rated as 'world-leading', higher than any other UK music conservatoire.

The College also came in the top 10% of English universities for research promoting 'Public and Community Engagement', according to the Knowledge Exchange Framework 2021. The College scored very highly in the 'Skills, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship' category as well.

This reflects the work of the innovative Creative Careers Centre, and the ground-breaking Centre for Performance Science which has become an internationally distinctive centre for research, teaching and Knowledge Exchange.

Over half a million pounds in research grants was again awarded to the College this year, including a grant from the British Academy and Leverhulme Trust to the Curator of the RCM Museum Professor Gabriele Rossi Rognoni and Professor Richard Wistreich. Their research project, 'Materialising Musical Instruments', will explore how surviving musical instruments expand our understanding of the history of music and enrich historical narratives.

Opposite
A participant takes part in a digital installation run by the Centre for Performance Science at the 2022 RCM Festival of Percussion

MUSIC, MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

The AHRC-funded Music, Migration and Mobility project (2019–23) is developing innovative ways of telling the stories of a group of migrant musicians – émigrés from Nazi Europe – who found refuge in Britain. Interactive story maps, sheet music editions, oral history interviews and an exhibition in the RCM Museum (January–April 2023) will display and disseminate the multi-faceted narratives of these musicians' lives as a means of advancing ongoing debates about migration, mobility and culture formation in general.

The project combines reflective practice, digital humanities and archive-based historical research in the relatively new discipline of mobility studies. Outputs from the different research strands will be available on an online resource which will enable the user to engage with questions of identity and national belonging, while following the transnational journeys and networks of the musicians and composers.

HONOURING INTERNATIONAL MUSICIANS

RCM President, The former Prince of Wales, returned to the College to honour some of those who have made outstanding contributions to music.

In his 29th year as President, The former Prince of Wales visited the Royal College of Music to confer honours on international musicians, music industry professionals and RCM students.

Those who were made a Fellow of the Royal College of Music included two-time Grammy-nominated saxophonist Amy Dickson; composer Anna Meredith MBE; founder of the Purcell Quartet, Richard Boothby; violinist and RCM professor Gabrielle Lester, who has led orchestras for recordings of numerous film and television scores including *Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings* and *Doctor Who*; and Thomas Trotter, Resident Organist at Birmingham Symphony Hall, and a recent recipient of the Queen's Medal for Music.

The President enjoyed performances by some of the College's exceptionally talented students – pianists Dmitrii Kalashnikov and Victor Maslov, who were Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Rose Bowl winners in 2020 and 2022, respectively, as well as Tagore Gold Medal winners violinist Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux and pianist Dominic Doutney.

Also as part of the visit, The former Prince of Wales met 12-year-old twins Sami and Mehdi Uwahemu, who have both just graduated from the RCM Sparks outreach programme to join the RCM Junior Department.

Opposite
The former Prince of Wales presents The President's Award for 2022 to violinist Juhee Yang

SHAPING BRIGHT FUTURES

The Royal College of Music's Creative Careers Centre is recognised internationally for its innovative approach to supporting young musicians and paving the way to a successful career in music.

The RCM is a world leader in career development for musicians and our graduates are highly sought by a diverse range of employers. An impressive 86% of RCM graduates from our 2018–19 cohort were in employment or further study 15 months after graduating, at a challenging time in the arts sector, as were 94–100% during the last five years of the surveying period.

The Professional Engagements Service resumed business in September 2021 hiring musicians for paid performance work. It introduced a new orchestral initiative, the RCM's Prince Consort Road Orchestra, and provided 314 opportunities for musicians to perform at venues including Kensington Palace, the Royal Albert Hall, Cadogan Hall and The Ritz, earning them over £180,000.

During the pandemic the Centre adapted to offer a series of career events online as well as the Online Teaching Service, which attracted clients from the UK, the US and Japan. More than 90 teaching opportunities for students and graduates were created by that service combined with the re-opened in-person Teaching Service.

The Centre continued to develop two exciting funding schemes: RCM Accelerate and the RCM Musicians' Grant Fund. RCM Accelerate supported seven graduating students with grant funding of up to £5,000 each and mentoring to develop a creative project, social enterprise or business idea. The RCM Musicians' Grant Fund, available to final-year students, provided 22 awards totalling almost £30,000 in financial assistance towards the purchase of instruments and technical equipment.

Opposite
An RCM horn player rehearses in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall

STEINWAY & SONS

GLOBAL ALUMNI COMMUNITY

The Royal College of Music is immensely proud of its community of alumni from 87 countries who are some of our finest global ambassadors. Our worldwide network now stands at 20,655 alumni.

Many of our alumni maintain close contact with the College, some coming to give masterclasses or to teach. Former Masters student in Composition for Screen Kate Simko has returned as a professor; conductor Thomas Blunt as a teacher coaching postgraduate opera singers; and Neil Luck to run an experimental music module.

Several graduates have also been interviewed for our alumni LinkedIn group, including violin scholar Charlotte Smith who took over as the new editor of *BBC Music Magazine* in January 2022.

Our former students continue to have enormous success professionally, and in competitions around the world.

Matt Glendening was appointed principal clarinettist with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House and violinist Roberto Ruisi the orchestra leader of Sinfonia Cymru. Composer Andrew Chen was invited to become a 2021–22 Royal Philharmonic Society Composer, while Laura Ayoub composed music for the Netflix series *Finding Ola*.

Graduates from our Composition for Screen course have also enjoyed significant success. Mickey Dale went to Los Angeles to become the assistant to American composer Christopher Tin (also an RCM alumnus), and Daniel Chant-Burgess worked as assistant to the British composer Patrick Doyle.

Many alumni performed at the 2022 BBC Proms, including pianist and former Benjamin Britten Piano Fellow Pavel Kolesnikov who performed Bach's *Goldberg Variations* and soprano Louise Alder as a soloist in Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, while composer Charlotte Bray's *Where Icebergs Dance Away* received its UK premiere.

Our alumni have also won many awards. Dani Howard won the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Large-Scale Composition Award for her Trombone Concerto, written for the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and soloist Peter Moore, and mezzo-soprano Esme Bronwen-Smith won First Prize at the 2022 Kathleen Ferrier Awards and has since gone on to work with English Touring Opera.

RCM alumni had further success at the 2022 Royal Over-Seas League Competition – George Todică won the Keyboard Prize and guitarist Jack Hancher was the First Prize and Gold Medal winner.

Opposite
Esme Bronwen-Smith competes in the finals of the Kathleen Ferrier Awards, accompanied by current Collaborative Piano student Avishka Edirisinghe, who won the Help Musicians Accompanist Prize

SUPPORTING TALENT

The Royal College of Music remains committed to its founding principle that those with talent should have the opportunity to study with us, regardless of their means.

The RCM Scholarships Fund enables gifted young music students from all over the world and all backgrounds to access tuition from the best professors, enjoy unrivalled facilities and take advantage of the exceptional opportunities offered by the College.

Thanks to the generosity of the RCM community, a record £131,836 was raised for the Scholarships Fund in the 2021 Big Give Christmas Challenge.

The RCM's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Matching Fund for Scholarships and Bursaries, established in 2021 by Victoria, Lady Robey OBE HonRCM, has doubled for the 2022/23 academic year. Thanks to two new gifts from Lady Robey and the Victor Dahdaleh Foundation, the College now aims to raise £200,000 by the end of 2022.

Our scholars have had another successful year in competitions and as they embark on careers. Baritone Dafydd Allen (Dr Martin Schwartz Scholar supported by the Cuthbert Smith Scholarship) joins Welsh National Opera as an associate artist, while tenor Hugo Brady (Victor and Lillian Hochhauser Scholar) made his solo debut at the Barbican.

Violinist Julia Blachuta (HMD Meyer Violin Prize Holder) and clarinettist Mebrakh Haughton-Johnson (RCM Scholar) were both awarded 2022 Royal Philharmonic Society Julius Isserlis Scholarships, and Mebrakh also performed with the Chineke! Orchestra on tour at the Louis Vuitton Men's Fashion Show in Paris.

Cellist Shizuku Tatsuno (Nord Anglia Education Scholar) joined Glyndebourne's Pit Perfect scheme, and flautist and saxophonist Rianna Henriques (Victor Dahdaleh Foundation Scholar) played with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra and at Ronnie Scott's.

Pianist Mykyta Burzanitsa (Milstein Medal Award Holder supported by the Gordon Calway Stone Scholarship and International Students House) won the Intercollegiate Beethoven Prize, marking the third year running that an RCM student has won this competition. Fellow pianist Rieko Makita (Noswad Charity Award Holder) was selected as piano fellow for the Philharmonia MMSF Instrumental Fellowship Programme.

Composition Scholar Samuel Loveless (South Square Trust Award Holder) meanwhile joined the Erasmus+ programme at the Royal Conservatoire in Hague, and conductor John Paul Jennings (James Horner Scholar supported by the Robert Anderson Trust Residential Scholarship) made his debut with Green Opera at Grimeborn.

Opposite
Rianna Henriques (Victor Dahdaleh Foundation Scholar) performs with the RCM Symphony Orchestra

I am extremely grateful to have been a scholar at the RCM. The support of my donors made it possible for me to develop as a performer and receive the incredible education on offer.

Dafydd Allen, Dr Martin Schwartz Scholar supported by the Cuthbert Smith Scholarship

WIDENING ACCESS: RCM JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

The Royal College of Music Junior Department (RCMJD) offers training at the highest level to young students aged 8 to 18, combining individual lessons with chamber music, musicianship, and orchestral and choral training.

The RCMJD is committed to nurturing the next generation of music students from a diverse range of backgrounds and to ensuring they are not prevented from attending through financial hardship. This year, over £200,000 of bursary support was allocated to families most in need.

Being a part of RCMJD is a transformative experience and about 70% of our students go on to study music, with many of them being offered scholarships to continue at the senior RCM.

This year, our pupils performed in prestigious venues including the Royal Albert Hall, Southbank Centre, Cadogan Hall and Wigmore Hall. They were involved in more than 110 concerts as well as in a semi-staged performance of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. There were also more than 400 solo and chamber performance opportunities, and we received over 200 entries to competitions offering students the chance to work with professional accompanists.

World-class musicians including Tasmin Little, Ken Burton and Riot Ensemble led masterclasses, and several students performed for The former Prince of Wales on his visit to the College.

RCMJD students continue to dominate the UK youth orchestras, winning a record number of 28 places in the National Youth Orchestra, including leader Gabriella Bavetta who takes up a scholarship at the RCM in autumn 2022. More RCMJD students than ever reached the category finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition, including the winner Jordan Ashman.

The RCMJD actively reaches out to and recruits a diverse range of students and has formed partnerships with organisations that share the same commitment, such as Nucleo and Future Talent. All six students on our inaugural Future Talent Transitions programme continued their studies at the RCMJD in September 2022.

Opposite
The RCMJD Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Jacques Cohen, performs at Cadogan Hall

From the very beginning of my journey at RCMJD, I knew that it was the place I wanted to be; everyone was so welcoming, and the level of musicality overwhelmed me, motivating me to work harder than I had ever done so before. Most importantly for me, RCMJD has helped me achieve my biggest goals in life, as I continue to pursue my musical career as a violist with a full scholarship at the Royal College of Music.

Rocio Ortega Lopez, first-year undergraduate (ABRSM Scholar) and RCMJD alumna

WIDENING ACCESS: RCM SPARKS

RCM Sparks is the College's accessible learning and participation programme, designed to engage young children in schools and the local community where support is needed most.

RCM Sparks workshops offer inspirational learning experiences to all, regardless of financial means, with free or subsidised places available for children (and their families) who are eligible.

The programme is designed by RCM staff and supported by students and graduates, 118 of whom received training and work placements this year.

After the challenges of online learning there was a return to face-to-face activity from September 2021, and RCM Sparks has worked closely again with the Tri-Borough Music Hub to bring live musical activities to schools and families in the London boroughs of Westminster, Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington & Chelsea.

Schools also returned to the College for lunchtime concerts, gamelan workshops and creative workshops, and to visit the Museum.

The pre-school, early years 'Mini Sparks' programme engaged with families in the surrounding boroughs on a weekly basis, and 'Get Set Play' held summer workshops in some of the most deprived areas of the Tri-Borough, culminating in a showcase at the RCM. Training was also given to LEYF social enterprise nurseries to support their music teaching though the innovative Musical Futures programme, with funding provided by the RCM's Knowledge Exchange scheme.

RCM Sparks also worked closely with the RCM Museum for the Explorers and Springboard music-making courses, and offered accessible workshops at the Festival of Percussion, the Conducting Festival, FestivALL and the Great Exhibition Road Festival.

Led by RCM Sparks, the acclaimed 'Turtle Song' singing and songwriting programme for people with Alzheimer's or dementia and their carers returned, bringing the joy of music to the families who took part.

Opposite
An RCM Sparks participant works with an RCM musician at the 2022 Festival of Percussion

I've taken part in quite a few RCM Sparks projects, and all of them were really important for my development. It's a safe environment for me to practise my leadership skills and I always feel supported by the Sparks team and the workshop leaders. RCM Sparks has made me realise I want to do more creative education and community work once I graduate.

RCM Sparks Student Mentor

FAZIOLI

LEGACIES

Legacy gifts, large or small, transform the lives of young musicians. They allow us to invest in the future, ensuring we provide world-class opportunities for the most talented musicians.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our legators we received £1.5 million in legacy income this year. We are grateful to all who support the RCM in this meaningful way.

Gifts in Wills account for on average a third of the College's total fundraising efforts. One in three scholars is studying at the RCM thanks to gifts in Wills and gifts in memory of a loved one.

The RCM Legacy Ensemble recognises supporters who have pledged a gift in their Will and has grown again to 186, with 19 new pledgers joining this year. In February, more than 60 members attended a lunch with performances from students whose scholarships are funded by legacy giving.

This year, £670,000 in realised legacy gifts was directed to the Scholarships Fund, with over £1 million awarded in scholarships by 92 donors who left gifts in Wills or named a scholarship in memory of a loved one.

Two bequests from Gerald Charles Webster and Jill Anderson helped us complete our building development as part of the More Music Campaign. RCM spaces will be named in their honour to recognise their incredible contributions to the College.

A bequest from Sylvia G. Daughtry and her husband John Daughtry will endow a named scholarship in perpetuity to enrich young lives for generations to come, ensuring the couple's love of music lives on.

Opposite
Cellist Maxim Calver, Herbert Howells & Thomas Fielden Scholar, performs at a lunch event for RCM Legacy Ensemble members

I can't say enough good things about the RCM. The outstanding, friendly team give it a very personal touch. I am delighted to be pledging a gift in my Will, and am very proud to be part of this wonderful institution.

Elizabeth Blackman, RCM Friend who has pledged a legacy towards the RCM Scholarships Fund

OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Thanks to generous philanthropic support, the Royal College of Music has raised almost £43 million towards the More Music: Reimagining the Royal College of Music Campaign, exceeding its target of £40 million.

The Campaign has successfully raised £25 million for the transformation of our building, over £11 million in endowed scholarships, £4 million to promote innovation and £2 million to widen access through RCM Sparks and the Junior Department.

We are delighted that our first Summer Festival held in July 2022 raised £200,000 to mark the final chapter of the Campaign. During 2021/22, more than 1,000 supporters donated to the RCM, demonstrating the far-reaching impact of the College's work.

In 2021/22, the RCM received many significant donations to help secure the future of excellence in music. We wish to recognise the generous support of the Estate of John & Sylvia Daughtry, the Estate of Gerald Webster, the Croucher Hong Kong Charitable Trust, The Wolfson Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, our senior volunteers, and all our loyal supporters who have made the Campaign a resounding success.

It has been an exciting year for the RCM. Our South Kensington campus has been transformed by the More Music Campaign and we are delighted that our new state-of-the-art performance spaces, Café and Museum are now open. Philanthropy ensures that classical music continues to thrive and that our talented students can fulfil their potential as future performers, educators and researchers.

From becoming an RCM Friend to leaving a gift in your Will, every contribution truly makes a difference, especially during challenging times. We are very grateful to all members of our wide family of supporters for their role in helping to secure the future of music and enabling us to be the global top performing arts institution.

Lily Harriss HonRCM
Director of Development

Opposite
An RCM violinist rehearses with the RCM Philharmonic in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall

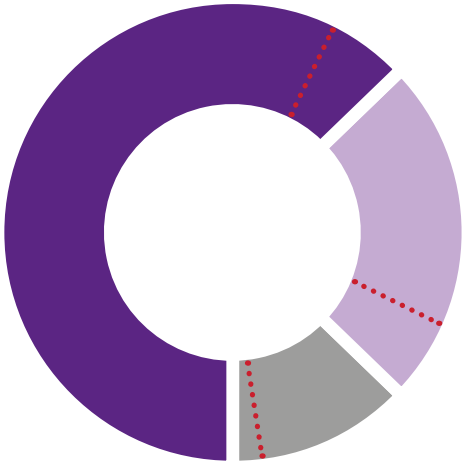
Opposite
An RCM postgraduate conductor rehearses with the RCM Symphony Orchestra

MORE MUSIC CAMPAIGN: THE FINALE

Campaign Success

Supporting the most talented through endowed scholarships:

£10 million target,
£11 million raised



Promoting innovation:

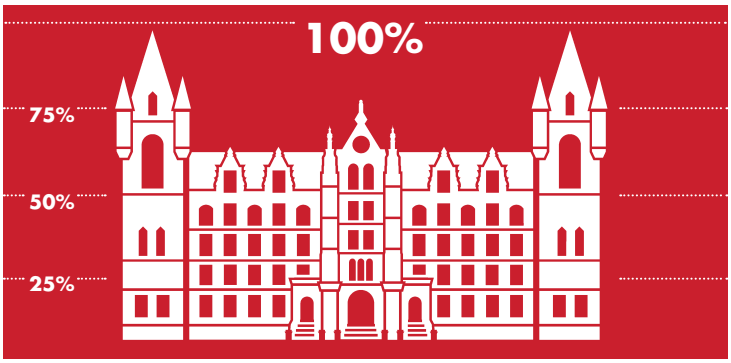
£3 million target,
£4.3 million raised

Widening access:

£2 million target,
£2.2 million raised

Strengthen our facilities: building development

Target: **£25 million**



STRENGTHEN OUR FACILITIES

Total raised: **£25 million**

Remainder: **£0**

2021/2022 IN NUMBERS

OVER
1K
TOTAL SUPPORTERS

STUDENTS OF
55
NATIONALITIES AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

£4.3M
IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

£6M
IN PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT RAISED

The cast of Jonathan Dove's *Flight* on stage in the Britten Theatre, July 2022

52%

OF STUDENTS RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT DURING THEIR STUDIES

39.2K

SUBSCRIBERS TO THE RCM YOUTUBE CHANNEL

£1.5M

RECEIVED FROM GIFTS IN WILLS

OVER 26K

TICKETS SOLD TO IN-PERSON PERFORMANCES

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Music has the power to transform lives. Your generosity enables us to reach and nurture gifted students so they can become leading musicians of the next generation, and can contribute fully to the worldwide musical community, our society and economy. We would like to thank all those listed below, as well as those who wish to remain anonymous, who have generously supported the RCM between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022.

We would also like to thank members of the RCM Legacy Ensemble who have so thoughtfully pledged a gift to the RCM in their Will.

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Anton Tasker
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Caroline Wallis-Newport
Timothy Wilcox

Opposite
An RCM oboe player rehearses in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall

STUDENT NUMBERS

Home
475
(49.8%)

International
365
(38.3%)

EU
113
(11.9%)

Female
502
(52.7%)

Male
448
(47.0%)

Other
3
(0.3%)

Undergraduate
478
(50.2%)

Postgraduate
429
(45.0%)

Doctoral
46
(4.8%)

Opposite
A chamber ensemble of RCM musicians performs in the new state-of-the-art Performance Hall

FINANCES

In 2021/2022, the College made a deficit for the year of £2 million. After adjusting to remove the impact of gains and losses and of changes to pension provisions, the underlying surplus was £3.1 million. In the previous year there was an underlying surplus of £1.8 million.

	2021/22 £m	2020/21 £m
Reported (deficit)/surplus for the year	(2.0)	8.7
Remove losses/(gains) on investments and disposals	2.0	(6.6)
Remove changes to pension provisions	3.1	(0.3)
Underlying surplus before gains and losses	3.1	1.8

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The late Queen

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The former Prince of Wales

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Douglas Gardner
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Dr Ingrid Pearson HonRCM [appointed March 2022]
Ann Somerville HonRCM [appointed August 2021]
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Tymon Zgorzelski [Students' Union President: elected August 2022]

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Sandra D'Souza [appointed October 2022]

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